

SECRET

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY

Germany (Russian Zone) **CONFIDENTIAL**

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SUBJECT

Soviet Air and Ground OB Notes

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Rangsdorf (Z-82)**REFERENCE CENTER LIBRARY**

1. The airfield was evacuated by a Soviet Air Force unit on 15 November 1947. The unit is said to have gone to Wittstock/Dosse. Hangars were completely dismantled by 4 December. Hangars of the former Bucker Aircraft Factory, scheduled to be dismantled, were left intact - allegedly because of a protest by Swedish investors.
2. Four engineer companies (approximately 500 men) were at the Rangsdorf airfield, receiving infantry training, in mid-December 1947. Exercises did not include the use of the runway, which is intact.

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3. [REDACTED] the Rangsdorf airfield ground is being divided, but that no lots under ten Morgen in 25X1A size are being released. [REDACTED] confirms dismantling of the airfield hangars. The lakeside casino, guardhouse, administration and headquarters buildings remain intact. With regard to the Bucker complex, 25X1A their installations were removed in 1946. The buildings are undamaged and the largest hall is being used as a Soviet Air Force repair shop. The Bucker works is controlled by the Potsdam administration.

Werneuchen (V-06)

4. In mid-December 1947 there were 28 to 30 single-engine fighters, believed to be SU-2 types, at Werneuchen airfield, in addition to an unreported number of bombers. No AA guns were observed.
5. Between 1 and 15 January 1948, there were approximately 5,000 Russians at Werneuchen. Of these, some 2,000 were EM, the rest being civilian workers and dependents. At this time, housing authorities were attempting to find billeting facilities for a new contingent of 10,000 troops expected to arrive in late January.

(Paras 5-13)

Wünsdorf-Zossen (Z-91)

6. The Wünsdorf-Zossen Troop Training area was still occupied by a large

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unit, believed to be an armored division, during the period 1-15 January.

Mallensee (Z-81)

7. Removals of equipment from the engineer depot at Mallensee, one of the German Army's largest depots, began in late 1945. These operations have continued and it is now expected that they will be completed by 1 March 1948.

Furstenwalde (V-33)

8. The airfield was slightly used during 1947, but could be activated with little difficulty. Two AA detachments were on the field, 1-15 January 1948. There were no gun positions and all equipment, including guns, was stored in sheds.

9. Between 1 and 15 January, an armored unit, believed to be in battalion strength, occupied the former Pioneer Barracks in Furstenwalde. Its twelve tanks are housed in five well-guarded sheds. Gun turrets have been moved back and the gun barrel, equipped with muzzle brake, is held up by a tubular support. [redacted] these tanks as being approximately 2.70 meters high and almost as wide, 4-5 meters body length without counting the gun protuberance, sides 30-45% slanted, bogie wheels 0.85 meters diameter.

10. The sixth shed contains twelve vehicles whose gun barrels protrude 1.20 meters through holes cut in the doors. Barrels are 122 mm and it is believed, though these vehicles could not be seen, that they are SU-122's.

11. The former Furstenwalde Gymnasium is occupied by a supply company.

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12. The former army supply depot holds gas protection clothing, gas masks, decontamination equipment, and light engineering equipment such as spades, pointed iron bars for mine detection, etc. The gas masks - normal type, with tube and filled with compressed air - are regularly cleaned and refilled by German women workers. The filters are not stored in air tight containers and the absorption coal loses its effectiveness through constant contact with air.

13. The former Henry Hall Factory has been equipped with machine tools and is producing spare parts for tanks, tractors, and other vehicles.

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